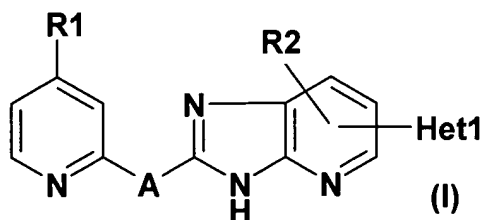


Appendix A

Claim Amendments

1. (Currently amended) ~~Compounds A~~ A compound of formula I



in which

R1 is 1-4C-alkoxy,

A is 1-4C-alkylene,

R2 is hydrogen, halogen, 1-4C-alkyl or 1-4C-alkoxy,

Het1 is optionally substituted by R3 and/or R4 and is a monocyclic or fused bicyclic 5- to 10-membered unsaturated or partially saturated heteroaryl radical comprising one to three heteroatoms, each of which is selected from [[a]] the group consisting of nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, in which

R3 is 1-4C-alkyl, halogen, cyano, trifluoromethyl, phenyl, mono- or di-1-4C-alkylamino, formyl, 1-4C-alkylcarbonyl, carboxyl or 1-4C-alkoxy,

R4 is 1-4C-alkyl or halogen,

or a salt, N-oxide or a salt of an N-oxide thereof

~~as well as the salts, N-oxides and the salts of the N-oxides of these compounds.~~

2. (Currently amended) ~~Compounds~~ The compound of formula I according to claim 1

in which

R1 is methoxy,

A is ethylene,

R2 is hydrogen,

Het1 is optionally substituted by R3 and/or R4 and is a monocyclic or fused bicyclic 5- to 10-membered unsaturated or partially saturated heteroaryl radical comprising one to three heteroatoms, each of which is selected from a group consisting of nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, in which

R3 is 1-4C-alkyl, halogen, cyano, trifluoromethyl, phenyl, mono- or di-1-4C-alkylamino, formyl, 1-4C-alkylcarbonyl, carboxyl or 1-4C-alkoxy,

R4 is 1-4C-alkyl or halogen,

or a salt, N-oxide or a salt of an N-oxide thereof

~~as well as the salts, N-oxides and the salts of the N-oxides of these compounds.~~

3. (Currently amended) ~~Compounds~~ The compound of formula I
according to claim 1

in which

R1 is 1-4C-alkoxy, ~~such as e.g. methoxy,~~

A is 1-4C-alkylene, ~~such as e.g. ethylene,~~

R2 is halogen, 1-4C-alkyl, 1-4C-alkoxy or hydrogen,

Het1 is optionally substituted by R3, and is a thiophenyl
radical, in which

R3 is 1-4C-alkyl or phenyl,

or

Het1 is optionally substituted by R3, and is a furanyl
radical, in which

R3 is 1-4C-alkyl,

or

Het1 is optionally substituted by R3, and is a pyridyl
radical, in which

R3 is 1-4C-alkyl,

[[or]]

or

Het1 is optionally substituted by R3, and is a fused
bicyclic 9-membered unsaturated heteroaryl radical,
which comprises one or two heteroatoms independently

selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, and which contains a benzene ring, ~~such as e.g. benzimidazolyl, indolyl, benzothiophenyl or benzofuranyl,~~ in which

R3 is 1-4C-alkyl,

or a salt, N-oxide or a salt of an N-oxide thereof

~~as well as the salts, N-oxides and the salts of the N-oxides of these compounds.~~

4. (Currently amended) ~~Compounds~~ The compound of formula I according to claim 1

in which

R1 is methoxy,

A is ethylene,

R2 is hydrogen,

Het1 is optionally substituted by R3, and is a thiophenyl radical, in which

R3 is 1-4C-alkyl or phenyl,

or

Het1 is a furanyl radical,

or

Het1 is a pyridyl radical,

or

Het1 is optionally substituted by R3, and is a benzimidazolyl, indolyl, benzothiophenyl or benzofuranyl radical, in which

R3 is 1-4C-alkyl,

or a salt, N-oxide or a salt of an N-oxide thereof

~~as well as the salts, N-oxides and the salts of the N-oxides of these compounds.~~

5. (Currently amended) ~~Compounds~~ The compound of formula I according to claim 1

in which

R1 is methoxy,

A is ethylene,

R2 is hydrogen,

Het1 is optionally substituted by R3, and is thiophen-2-yl or thiophen-3-yl, in which

R3 is methyl or phenyl,

or

Het1 is furan-2-yl or furan-3-yl,

or

Het1 is pyridin-2-yl, pyridin-3-yl or pyridine-4-yl,

or

Het1 is optionally substituted by R3, and is benzimidazolyl
~~such as e.g. benzimidazol-2-yl, in which~~

R3 is methyl,

or

Het1 is indolyl, benzothiophenyl or benzofuranyl, ~~such as
e.g. indol-5-yl, benzofuran-2-yl, benzofuran-3-yl,
benzothiophen-2-yl or benzothiophen-3-yl,~~

or a salt, N-oxide or a salt of an N-oxide thereof

~~as well as the salts, N-oxides and the salts of the N-
oxides of these compounds.~~

6. (Currently amended) ~~Compounds of any of the preceding
claims~~ The compound according to claim 1 under the provisio
that 2-[2-(4-methoxypyridin-2-yl)ethyl]-6-(pyridin-3-yl)-
3H-imidazo-[4,5-b]pyridine is thereof disclaimed,

or a salt, N-oxide or a salt of an N-oxide thereof

~~as well as the salts, N-oxides and the salts of the N-
oxides of these compounds.~~

7. (Currently amended) ~~Compounds of any of the claims 1 to
5~~ The compound according to claim 1

under the first provisio that hereby

Het1 is not pyridyl, and

under the second provisio that hereby

Het1 is not pyridyl substituted by R5 wherein

R5 is halogen, 1-4C-alkyl or 1-4C-alkoxy,

or a salt, N-oxide or a salt of an N-oxide thereof

~~as well as the salts, N-oxides and the salts of the N-oxides of these compounds.~~

8. (Currently amended) ~~Compounds~~ The compound of formula I according to claim 1, in which

R1 is methoxy,

A is ethylene,

R2 is hydrogen,

Het1 is optionally substituted by R3 and/or R4 and is a thiophenyl radical, in which

R3 is methyl, chlorine, cyano or phenyl, and

R4 is methyl,

or

Het1 is optionally substituted by R3 and is a furanyl radical, in which

R3 is methyl,

or

Het1 is an indolyl radical,

or a salt, N-oxide or a salt of an N-oxide thereof

~~as well as the salts, N-oxides and the salts of the N-oxides of these compounds.~~

9. (Currently amended) ~~Compounds~~ The compound of formula I according to claim 1, in which

R1 is 1-4C-alkoxy,

A is 1-4C-alkylene,

R2 is hydrogen, halogen, 1-4C-alkyl or 1-4C-alkoxy,

Het1 is pyridyl, or pyridyl substituted by R3, in which

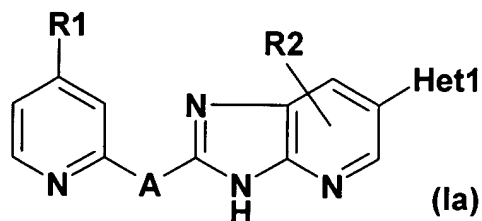
R3 is halogen, 1-4C-alkyl or 1-4C-alkoxy,

under the proviso that 2-[2-(4-methoxypyridin-2-yl)ethyl]-6-(pyridin-3-yl)-3H-imidazo-[4,5-b]pyridine is thereof disclaimed,

or a salt, N-oxide or a salt of an N-oxide thereof

~~as well as the salts, N-oxides and the salts of the N-oxides of these compounds.~~

10. (Currently amended) ~~Compounds of~~ The compound according to claim 1, wherein said compound has ~~compounds have~~ the formula Ia



in which

R1 is methoxy,

A is ethylene,

R2 is hydrogen,

Het1 is pyridin-4-yl, pyridin-2-yl, 3-fluoro-pyridin-4-yl, 3-chloro-pyridin-4-yl, 6-fluoro-pyridin-3-yl, 6-chloro-pyridin-3-yl, 2-fluoro-pyridin-3-yl, 2-chloro-pyridin-3-yl, 4-methyl-pyridin-2-yl, 5-methyl-pyridin-2-yl, 6-methyl-pyridin-2-yl, 5-methyl-pyridin-3-yl, 2-methyl-pyridin-4-yl, 3-methyl-pyridin-4-yl, 6-methoxy-pyridin-2-yl, 2-methoxy-pyridin-3-yl, 4-methoxy-pyridin-3-yl, 5-methoxy-pyridin-3-yl or 6-methoxy-pyridin-3-yl,

or a salt, N-oxide or a salt of an N-oxide thereof

~~as well as the salts, N-oxides and the salts of the N-oxides of these compounds.~~

11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently amended) ~~Pharmaceutical compositions~~ A pharmaceutical composition containing one or more compounds of formula I according to claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, N-oxide or a salt of an N-oxide thereof, together with ~~the usual pharmaceutical auxiliaries and/or excipients~~ a pharmaceutically suitable auxiliary and/or excipient.

13. - 14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently amended) A method for treating an acute inflammatory disease ~~diseases~~ in a patient comprising administering to said patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula I according to claim 1, or a salt, N-oxide or a salt of an N-oxide thereof.

16. (Currently amended) A method for treating a chronic inflammatory disease ~~diseases~~ of peripheral organs and the central nervous system (CNS) in a patient comprising administering to said patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula I according to claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, N-oxide or a salt of an N-oxide thereof.